The Daily Star

Bangladeshis deplore US strike on Iraq

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People from all walks of life reacted sharply yesterday to the US-led attack on Iraq and termed it "unjustifiable and illegitimate"

The shock wave of the attack was felt in Dhaka when law-enforcing agencies kept roads leading to diplomatic zones off-limits to public.

Small groups brought out processions protesting the US invasion on Iraq. People in small groups gathered in front of shops where radio or television was available for latest updates on the US-British invasion on Iraq.

Some local newspapers brought out telegram in the afternoon after the US attacked Iraq.

Different socio-cultural, political and business organisations in separate statements yesterday condemned the US-led attack on Iraq.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA) expressed concern over the Iraq war and said it will badly affect the country's readymade garments export.

"Many of the importers have refrained from opening letters of credits (LCs) against import of readymade garments due to worry over war," BGMEA President Kazi Moniruzzaman said in a statement. They are maintaining a 'wait and

see' policy for export order.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) at a meeting called upon people from all walks of life to raise voice against the US-led aggression on Iraq.

Hasina demands punishment to **Tapan's killers** STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina demanded exemplary punishment to the killers of Tapan Bhattachariya when she visited the Thakurbari at Komorpur village in Bagerhat yesterday.

nearby primary school where she alleged that those who killed Tapan and raped women of his family were members of the four-party alliance.

Hasina called for a united movement to unseat the present government from power. "We want to get rid of the unholy Khaleda-Nizami alliance. The four-party alliance government has no right to remain power captured through polls rigging," she said. Former state minister Dr

Mozammel Hossain who is president of Bagerhat district Awami League presided over the rally. The rally was addressed by,

among others, Sheikh Helaluddin

the bereaved family and spent half an hour with them.

On her way back to the capital via Khulna, she went to Khulna Medical College Hospital to see the rape victims.

None has given mandate either to the US president Bush nor British prime minister Tony Blair for the so called 'free Iraq from dictatorship', said Tasmid Jahan, a house wife.

CPB leaders said the practice of

eaceful crisis solution through the

United Nations Security Council

came to an end following the US

Gano Forum, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Jatiya Gano

Front, Communist Kendro,

Bangladesh Chhatra Union,

Bangladesh Chhatra Kendro,

Doctors Against War, South Asian

People's Union against

Fundamentalism & Communalism,

Sylhet Development Council also

issued statements condemning the

Cross section of people termed

"It's a wrong war and a wrong

the attack as brutal and uncivilised

and defiance to the United Nations

way of showing supremacy," said

Shabbir Ahmed, a student of Dhaka

University. "We know it for sure that

it is nothing but an US trick to have

its hand on Iraq's oil reserve," he

attack on Iraq.

US invasion on Iraq

peace process.

added.

"This is an extreme case of unjust brutality,' said Najr Irfan, a BBA student of North South University. Ashiq Alam, a Bangladeshi

student at University of Windsor, Canada said "Since this war is without the backing of the UN, it is unfair and illegal. President Bush needs an excuse since the US economy is at an all-time low - if he can't get some excuses, chances of him being reelected are slim", he added

Saurav pounces

FROM PAGE 1

Peter Ongondo to leg and got a leading edge to be caught in the covers by MauriceOdumbe. Ganguly maintained India's

momentum, twice hitting legspinner Collins Obuya for sixes over the grandstand in the same over.

But, not for the first time at this World Cup, Tendulkar got out when in sight of a hundred as he pulled Steve Tikolo to deep midwicket where David Obuya took a well-judged catch. Tendulkar faced 101 balls and hit

one six and five fours, putting on 103 in 120 balls with Ganguly, one of several impressive partnerships for theIndians

SCOREBOARD

Dravidnotout Extras: (w-9, nb-2) 11 **Total:** (For4wktsin50 overs) 270 Fall of wickets: 1-74, 2-177, 3-233, 4-Did not bat: D Mongia, H Singh, Z identifying these structures so that Khan, J Srinath, A Nehra people would know their history. 0 M R W Bowler 10 1 62 Suji 0 tion of historical sites all over the Odovo 10 1 45 1 country. Ongondo 10 38 1 Dr. Badiul Alam Majumdar said Karim 4 0 25 0 the main responsibility to conserve the site lies with the locals. 10 Tikolo 0 60 1 Among others, Prof. Ayesha Begum of Dhaka University, archi-6 0 CObuva 40

KENYA: Kennedy Otieno, Ravindu Shah, Steve Tikolo, Maurice Odumbe, David Obuya, Hitesh Modi, Thomas

TVumpire:Simon Taufel (Aus)

Match referee: Mike Procter (RSA)

Security beefed

up for anti-war

protests today

Security will be tightened country-

wide ahead of anti-war demonstra-

at the Paltan Maidan and the Baitul

Mukarram Mosque and keep watch

on rallies and processions opposed

Also, a cell at the home ministry

prayers for an end to the Iraq war.

Law enforcers will mount guard

tions today, said official sources.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DarylHarper (Aus)

She also addressed a rally at the

NEWS

RESISTANCE

TO

IMPERIALTS"

GGRESS

Hasina consoled members of

Save Panam Nagar heritage, demands Sonargaon rally

BACK FROM PANAM, Sonargaon

FROM PAGE 1 Local volunteers of the Hunger US and British troops and civilians Project - Bangladesh, at Sonargaon immediately donned chemical demanded conservation of protective suits and air raid sirens blared in Kuwait City. Throughout Sonargaon's historical Panam Nagar the day, sirens blew off and on.

The demand was put forward at a rally held at the Sonargaon Jubo Sango premises yesterday.

" I want proper conservation of ern suburb of the capital, to show civilians wounded in the strike. the Panam Nagar which is a part of our heritage," said Jharna, a stu-dent of class eight of G.R. Institution School. vowed to fight and defeat the "reck-

Lacking proper conservation, the 52 years old archaeological less and criminal" Bush. "You, Iragis, will be victorious... structures at Panam Nagar are now Your enemies will be in disgrace and in dilapidated condition. shame," a tired-looking Saddam

Economist Prof. Mozaffar said. Ahmed proposed that Sonargaon municipality should post the He appealed to Muslims to go for Jihad (holywar) against the US. historical records of the buildings Addressing the nation over televi-

sion, Bush said these are the opening stages of what will be a broad and He also emphasised preservaconcerned campaign.

"Now that conflict has come, the only way to limit its duration is to apply decisive force. And I assure you this will not be a campaign of half measures and we will accept no outcome but victory," he said.

The declaration of war brought fierce criticism from world leaders

Iraq said a civilian was killed in the

pre-dawn attack. Reporters were

taken to a hospital in Doura, a south-

Immediately after the attack,

Saddam in a "live" television address

tect Saiful Haq, Dr. Ayasha Khatun, vesterday, as Russia accused the US Prof. AKM Shahnewaz, Dr. Mehercommitting "a big political mis take" and France expressed its "regret" over the strikes.

China launched a scathing attack on the US, saving the war is an illegitimate conflict and violation of the norms of international behaviour.

In Baghdad, a city already crouched in its shell in war apprehension, streets were empty on an eerie quite morning after the attack. People expecting fiercer strikes preferred to stayhome.

Sleeping Baghdad bombed

the city streets. Electricity and water supplies were still in place. The presidential palaces were still intact and were not targeted. The Iraqi flag was flying there.

More than 600 US combat aircraft are within striking distance of Iraq, operating from five aircraft carriers and land bases across the Gulf region, Pentagon officials said.

B-2 bombers alone can strike up to 16 targets in a single pass with 2,000 pound satellite guided bombs. The B-1 bombers can hit 24 separate targets. And the B-52 can fire airlaunched cruise missiles or unload a dozen 2,000 pound satellite-guided

Cry for greens

FROM PAGE 12 The contractors are also learnt to have prepared a list of New Colony residents who are opposing the project. The residents fear the contractors may even cancel their colony accommodation by exerting influence.

The New Colony, with decent civic amenities like playground and open spaces, was built in the 1950s for government officials.

The contractors yesterday engaged more than 300 labourers to speed up construction. By 10:00am, the labourers dug up one third of the playground and spaces between the colony buildings. Every tree-covered space was being cleared.

The protesters also moved inside the colony, shouting slogans and urging the labourers to stop digging.

Locals alleged that two contractors, Bachchu and Tutul, also owners of a city bus service, have set up an illegal bus terminal in front of the Shaheed Minar of the colony, where 26 buses are parked every night. They accused officials of the housing department's Mohammadpur division of conniving with the contractors.

"We are not constructing on the playground," said Ekramuzzaman, a housing department member engineer. "We are just using a portion of the playground."

Ekramuzzaman says he does not knowhow much the project will cost.

However, an assistant engineer at over the years. the Mohammadpur division said the initial cost of the project was esti-mated at Tk 57 crore. But the project between the conflicting interests of rice producers and consumers," he was revised and the cost went up, he added. Agriculture Secretary Ayub Quadri, who was assisting the minister at the briefing, denied any

Food minister denies Aman shortfall claims

DHAKA FRIDAY MARCH 21, 2003

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

food aid, the minister asserted that The government yesterday dis-missed reports of Aman shortfall Bangladesh would not face any trouble in food security as a fallout and claimed the production target of the war in Iraq. was achieved last season. a substantial quantity of the US-committed four lakh metric ton

High rice prices in markets has nothing to do with output, Agriculture Minister Matiur Rahman Nizami told a press conference vesterday.

price hike as prices of all other essentials rose, he added.

Quoting growers and traders, local press carried reports that Aman shortfall resulted in price spiral and the country witnessed five times rise in rice import in the current fiscal (2002-03) compared to the last.

Nizami said: "As against 114.58 lakh metric tons of production target, the country grew 115.59 lakh metric ton Aman according to primary report of the Department of Agriculture Extension. BBS (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics) also predicted Aman output to be 114 lakh metric ton.'

The minister argued that comparing to price rise-pattern of other essentials in the country, the prices of rice did not soar in the same pace "We've to always hit a balance

allowed to import the ingredients. But one company which has no registration in its name for import-ing ingredients of a certain pesticide will not enjoy the duty exemption," explained Quadri asserting that unlike past the agriculture ministry was now going tough with applica-tion of pesticide laws.

State Minister for Agriculture Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, Executive Chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) Nurul Alam and Director General of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) Nurul Islam Bhuiyan were, among others, present at the briefing.

knowing that massive raids were

Street, the market was deserted.

Only two men were there, in front

of cart filled with plastic sandals

war, Baghdadis were stocking up

"The beginning of the day was

good. In the hour after the first

bombs, we sold 180 -- that is

moving again. Party militia began

to stand down and sat on the side-

walk for a cup of tea while women.

covered in traditional long black

Near a bus station, Mr. Hanna's

"There are many people, partic-

ularly the poor, who need us. That is why I decided to open today," he

tion against diarrhoea, migraine

"The control room will remain

open round the clock and provide

assistance to returnees," said Dalil

Uddin Mondal, secretary in charge

of the Ministry of Expatriate Welfare

touch with all the Bangladesh

embassies in the Middle East and

there was no report of Bangladeshi

workers assembling in any country

Mondal said he had been in

and Overseas Employment.

Little by little, the city began

on everything they could.

extraordinary," Hihab said.

dress, went shopping.

pharmacy was open.

On normally bustling Rasafi

Life goes low

FROM PAGE 1

prices.

Half an hour later, a second series of bombings struck the south-east of Baghdad. AFP journalists saw an enormous ball of fire and black smoke rising up from the site. The downtown area was spared by the missiles which seemed to

and waiting for the next raid. "I have to keep living even if strike the city perimeter but it was there is a war. I sold one pair since impossible to determine the tarthis morning but I will stay here, gets from the vantage point of maybe once the fear passes, more people will come to buy," said As soon as calm returned to the Adnane.

city, wailing sirens announced the Sellers of gas tanks were doing a end of the alert. brisker business after setting up a Most families seemed to have

trailer on Midane Street. Anxious about the length of the

on their way.

Ambulances wheeled through

Nearly 180,000 US and British troops, meanwhile, have been straining at the leash in northern Kuwait, awaiting the word to lunge into southern Iraq in tanks, armoured fighting vehicles and assault helicopters. US surface warships and submarines in the opening strikes, a Navy spokeswoman in Washington said. Lieutenant Commander Mike

Brown, spokesman for the navy's northern Gulf battle group, said the missiles were aimed at "targets of opportunity," and that more than 10 were directed at least two targets. The destroyer USS Milius, the

cruisers USS Cowpens and USS Bunker Hill, and the submarines USS Cheyenne and USS Montpellier also fired missiles, the spokeswoman said

The limited scope of the strikes and the riskier near-dawn raids prompted speculation that the US nilitary was responding to unexpected, time-sensitive intelligence, possibly on the movements of whereabouts of Saddam Hussein.

"They decided not to wait, to go after Saddam Hussein now," said Loren Thompson, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute.

Oil prices plunged in London and Asia, where the dollar slid against other major currencies. Stock markets rose moderately in Asia, slid on opening in Europe and then picked town.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries reiterated that the oil-producing organisation was remained indoors, their ears glued

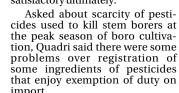
wheat meant for Bangladesh was already redirected to drought-torn Africa and the government's food grain stock stood at only 6 lakh There was no peculiarity in rice metric ton, 2.5 lakh metric ton down from expected food security-level of 8.5 lakh metric ton.

"But food reserve will pick up soon with the beginning of wheat and boro procurement drives. Besides, gradual shifting of foodaided programmes to cash-aided programmes will give us some relief too," Quadri added.

and lower than expected flow of

He, however, acknowledged that

On the question of probable boro croploss, the agriculture minister said though many seedbeds were hit by prolonged winter in December, boro output would be satisfactory ultimately



import. "We asked companies to pro-duce necessary papers before us by June 30 and till that time they're

import and production shortfall. "The import surge does not necessarily represent production short-fall, rather I'll attribute the rise in import to 'trade reasons.' If the importers find rice from across the borders cheaper in rate, they may import rice for marketing in higher Asked about the failure in Aman

procurement this year when the government bought 20 percent of the target, Nizami acknowledged

that the government made delay in beginning the drive. Despite drying up food reserve

relation between the huge rice



MB

Kaifrun out

Scoreboard of the India innings in their World Cup semifinal match against Kenya at Kingsmead in Durban on Thursday: INDIA SehwagcOdumbebOngondo 33 TendulkarcDObuyabTikolo 83 111 Gangulynotout

15

16

Adnan Sami's concert postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

YuvrajcDObuyabOdovo

The live concert of Indian star singer Adnan Sami scheduled to be held at the Army Stadium today was post-poned due to 'unavoidable circumstances'.

to the US-led invasion campaign The organiser of the show, Antar ShowbizLtd, has not yet come up with against Iraq. a new date for the concert. will monitor the situation.

A representative of Antar conveyed the message to the concert venue yesterday evening, without givingfurther details.

None of the organisers were available last night for their version.

Some sources said police did not give permission for the show on grounds of security of the diplomatic

State media

FROM PAGE 12 authorities before delivery.

The restrictions came following repeated requests from the US embassy in Dhaka, the sources said.

The US Ambassador met the foreign minister, foreign secretary and other relevant quarters in the government and "requested them not to instigate public demonstration against the USA".

Top leaders of the ruling alliance at a meeting on Wednesday night also discussed the request, which most leaders considered a "pressure" on the government.

At the meeting, BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan asked leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote not to bring out any violent procession or stage rowdy demonstration, the sources said.

He advised them to refrain from making any showdown that may anger the USA. Bangladesh is totally against war, but it would not be wise to make any one angry, he told the meeting.

Ministers have also been asked to refrain from making any individual statement or comment about the war, the sources said.

Collins Obuva, Peter and Shamsuzzoha Chowdhury Ongondo, Martin Suji, Asif Karim. also spoke on the occasion. Umpires: Steve Bucknor (WIs) and

Later, they brought out a procession that went through the Panam Nagar area and ended at the municipality office.

Bagerhat brutality Top Jubo Dal men 'involved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two top pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leaders were allegedly involved in the murder and rape of three women at Komorpur village of Jatrapur union under Bagerhat Sadar upazila.

The alleged Jubo Dal leaders are Baig Moazzem Hossain Sabu, president of Sadar upazila unit of

on February 9 following statement

by a police informant that they had

extorted money from a business-

Captain Atiq and his team went to Shyamoli bus stand by army jeep

and picked up an Indian hundi

trader. They released the trader on

man on January 29.

payment of Taka 3 lakh.

the party, and Haroon Shaikh. Meanwhile, the Islami Law Enforcement Committee, headed by Iddris Shaikh, Anis and Kalu Fazlul Haq Amini MP and Mufti Md Shaikh in their confession have Waqqas MP, will stage an anti-war rally at the Paltan Maidan today. made it clear that the murder of Tapan and gangrape of the three The committee will organise women was planned. They also Juma pravers and offer special said that the Komorpur tragedy was the result of an internal rift of

FROM PAGE 12

ments.

The 11-party alliance, Jubo the Bagerhat BNP unit. Union, Sammilita Samajik Andolon President of Bagerhat district and Anti-imperialist Platform held meetings and rallies and brought out BNP MAH Selim, MP, said Baig Mozzem and Haroon Shaikh were processions to protest the US attack. no longer with the ruling party.

Half-day hartal FROM PAGE 12

of capturing Iraq's oil.

The Preparation Committee of Rally and Procession Against War also called a half-day hartal the same day protesting the attack and the 'suspicious attitude' of Bangladesh government towards the war.

The committee yesterday, in a meeting chaired by Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah, called upon the people to join anti war movement.

The committee also set up a 'anti imperialism open stage at Muktangan in the city where demonstration and rally will be held every day in protest of the war.

Meanwhile a foot march and grand rally under the banner 'No war, No attack, want peace' will be held at the Dhaka University (DU) campus at 11:00am tomorrow. DU Vice-chancellor Prof. SMA Foyez will lead the rally and teachers, students and officials are expected to participate.

bombs along with cluster munitions. Tomahawks were fired from six oil to the market

Battle plan changed

FROM PAGE 1

nity" turned up. It appears that US military intelligence thought they knew where Saddam Hussein was, along with other members of his regime, and proposed a "decapita-tion strike". If successful, this would have brought the war to a halt even before it had properly got under way. The assassination plan was

presented to Bush at a four-hour meeting, which ended at 0020 GMT just in time for the president to have what the White House described as a "relaxing dinner" with his wife.

On the way to dinner, Bush told his speechwriter to get busy.

At 0315 GMT he appeared on television to announce that "coalition" forces were in the early stages of military operations against selective targets. Every effort would be made, he said, to show respect for Iraqi citizens, for the country's "great civilisation" and its religious faiths.

But there would be no halfmeasures, he warned. "We will accept no outcome but victory With these words, according to CNN, Bush went straight to bed.

CNN also promised a live statement from Tony Blair at 0330 GMT, but if the British prime minister did wake up to echo his master's voice, CNN didn't bother to show it.

Details of last night's "decapita-tion strike" are still sketchy, but it Four army men seems they targeted two sites on the Mohammad Ashiqur Rahman. He will serve the term in an army jail. southern outskirts of Baghdad. More than 40 satellite-guided cruise missiles were reportedly used, mainly The accused extorted money launched from ships and subma-rines. A number of F-117 stealth confining businessmen and inflicting mental torture on them. They

fighter-bombers also took part. were also accused of violating The Pentagon later released video military law and giving false stateclips, filmed in the dark, showing flashes and puffs of smoke as cruise The court martial led by Lt. Col. Rabiul Matin Chowdhury judged missiles blasted off from a warship. These historic pictures, a CNN reporter enthused, had been trans-

the case at the Savar cantonment. The court started the trial in mitted back to Washington by the February and concluded on March technological miracle of email. The captain and two of his soldiers were withdrawn from duty

According to the Iraqi authorities, 10 people died in the attack last night though Saddam Hussein was apparently not among them.

One of the CNN's armchair generals pointed out that decapitation strikes rarely succeed. But he added that it would still be "very disconcerting" for Saddam, who would now be wondering if someone inside the regime was giving the US information as to his whereabouts.

The captain, his cousin Dulal, That, of course, depends on what the soldiers, the jeep driver, the police informant and Bangabazzar the missiles actually hit. If US intelligence about the target of opportubusinessmen shared the booty.

nity was as inaccurate as it appears Saddam is probably feeling rather relieved

assassination attempt as part of a calculated psychological war, which includes the rumours circulated vesterday that Tariq Aziz, Iraq's leputy prime minister, had either defected or been killed.

the regime's morale if people start to believe them, and on Wednesday Aziz was forced to call a hasty press conference in order to prove he was still alive.

followed by the information minister who told listeners "victory is certain, certain, certain", and finally a TV appearance by Saddam Hussein (or at least someone looking very much like him). He seemed to have acquired a new pair of spectacles for the occasion, with impressively thick blackrims.

Latest word from the US is that President Bush's diary for the

JCD men FROM PAGE 12

dents allowed for admission on the basis of merit was already published a few days ago.

Sources said the JCD men's action yesterday was intended to foil the admission process, appre-hending that 'candidates of their choice' were not on the list.

JCD insiders however said they snatched the list as activists of Islamic Chhatra Shibir, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, managed to get it manipulated with the help of pro-Jamaat teachers of the university.

Proctor of the university Dr Mijanur Rahman admitted yesterday's incident and said the vice chancellor already discussed it with JCD leaders. The test results would be published soon, he said.

President of the university unit of JCD Mominur Rahman denied involvement of their activists in the snatching of result sheet. But he admitted that they locked the deputy registrar's office. ready to make good any shortage of

to radios in a country where the population does not have access to satellite TV channels, which are prohibited by the regime.

Um Mustapha, a housewife who had remained awake overnight to hear the expected outbreak of the war on her small radio, told AFP: "We were not scared because we expected it, but we are scared of what is to come.'

Some stands were selling fruit and vegetables while half-empty double-decker buses in imperial red were following their normal routes

Garbage trucks began making their rounds but raced to safety as soon as a the sirens sounded.

He added that demand had been particularly high for medica-Boys played ball in the streets taking advantage of the lack of traffic

and spasms, a common sign of But most people took shelter, anxiety," he said.

998 fly back home

said

FROM PAGE 1

Islam.

Meanwhile, the National Road Transport Association of Bangladesh (NRTAB) and the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) have taken measures to take the returnees home safe.

Buses -- each having five reserved seats for them -- will transport them home from Dhaka free, says a press release of the NRTAB.

The immigration and customs

authorities have been instructed to

speedily clear the returnees and

help them stay at the camp, he said.

how many workers will come back.

The number of returnees will not

be large if the war remains confined

200,000 Bangladeshis may be evac-

uated from the Middle East and the

International Organisation for

Migrants (IOM) has agreed to assist.

delegation led by LGRD Minister

Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan visited the

airport and the camp on

Wednesday to review preparation

for handling any emergency.

A high-powered government

In the worst scenario, some

to Iraq," said the state minister.

The government is still not sure

The BIWTC has also taken steps Embassy officials in Saudi Arabia to make their travels hassle-free. visited the bordering areas and The passengers may call the control found no signs of panic or possibilroom at 9558000. ity of emergency evacuation by "The government is fully pre-Bangladeshiworkers.

pared to tackle any emergency The embassy has formed a threesituation," said State Minister for member committee to handle any Expatriate Welfare and Overseas emergency. Employment Mohammad Quamrul

borderingIraq.

Dhaka regrets war FROM PAGE 12

Bangladesh condemns the missile attack on Baghdad, the foreign secretary said, "We are committed to a peaceful solution.'

"We're closely monitoring the developments minute by minute and we'll keep you updated of our reaction as the situation evolves."

When his attention was drawn to the comment made by the Iraqi foreign minister that 'Bangladesh is an agent of Bush for extending alleged undiplomatic gesture towards an Iraqi diplomat at the Zia International Airport recently', Mobin Chowdhury said, "Bangladesh is a sovereign and independent state and acts accordingly.

Al Hiqma men

Some experts see last night's

Such things are liable to damage

Today, Iraq responded to the "decapitation strike" with a radio message from Saddam's son, Udai,

the main "shock and awe" attack on Baghdad is still some hours away

dinner -- not with his wife this time, but with the president of Cameroon.

probably after nightfall this evening. next 24 hours is clear of official engagements, except for another

The four still to be nabbed are Al Hiqma's leader Sayed Kawsar Hussain Siddiqui, Rabiul Islam, Abdul

Hannan and Mojibur Rahman. The case has been filed under

sections 123 (Ka) and 124 (Ka) of Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC) for their alleged involvement in anti-state activities

Sub-inspector Shamsuddin of Detective Branch filed the case with Boalia thana after the home ministry clearance reached on Wednesday.

Talking to the Daily Star, Assistant Police Commissioner Wajed Ali said more people might be accused in the case before submission of a charge sheet within a day or two.

Police said the organisation's constitution, declaration and other documents so far recovered indicate

its subversive motives. All the four except Abdus Sobhan

vere quizzed by a joint interrogation cell in Dhaka.

Hearing on Sobhan's remand will be held at the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court on March 25.

The government banned the organisation on February 9.

Female worker FROM PAGE 12

ries inside CEPZ for around an hour.

Police and witnesses said, the

accident occurred when a bus

carrying employees and workers

ran over the three female garments

workers at some 300 yards off CEPZ

her two injured companions were admitted to CEPZ medical centre

and later shifted to Chittagong

Medical College Hospital (CMCH)

the accident, suspended work at

several factories until CEPZ

authority brought the situation under control with the help of

police. CEPZ authority formed a 3-

member committee to probe into

the accident. The committee has to

from Jhalokathi in Barisal, had recently resigned from her job at

Link Fa and was in CEPZ yesterday

for a better job in another firm. Injured Morsheda and Rekha were

workers of Univogue and Multi-suf

respectively. Nazma's brother-in-law, Md. Jamal, filed a case with

concerned Bondor thana accusing

the driver.

Sources said, Nazma, who hailed

submitits report within 7 days.

Agitation, erupting with news of

upon deterioration of condition.

Nazma was killed on the spot;

main gate at around 8am.